

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EA-11 M-03 SY-10 EB-11 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /100 W

----- 130374

R 031131Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4610

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 VALLETTA 1592

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PINS

SUBJ: FOLLOW-UP OF JAL HIJACKING

REF: STATE 146537; VALLETTA 1543

1. DEPUTY BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER ARTHUR HAS PROVIDED US WITH TRANSCRIPT OF TAPE RECORDING OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN HIJACKED JAPANAIR B747 AND MALTA FLIGHT INFORMATION SERVICE AND LOANED US TAPE, COPY OF WHICH WILL BE AIRPOUCHED.

2. COVERING LETTER FROM RAF TO ARTHUR STATED:

A. "IT WILL BE SEEN THAT RECEPTION WAS NOT VERY GOOD, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF EXTREME RANGE, AND THE TRANSCRIPT CONTAINS LITTLE OF INTEREST. IT WOULD SEEM ONLY THAT AIRCRAFT WAS ATTEMPTING TO GET INFORMATION ON THE POSITION OF LABRAQ BEACON AND BENINA, AND THE WEATHER AT BENINA BEFORE LANDING THERE. PRESUMABLY THE PILOT HAD NO CHARTS OR FLIGHT INFORMATION DOCUMENTS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA ABOARD. NOT SURPRISING AS HE WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR A FLIGHT OVER THE NORTH POLE TO TOKYO."

B. "I CANNOT DETERMINE WHO THE STATION USING THE CALLSIGN 02 WAS BUT PROBABLY IT WAS AN AMERICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT."

C. "SHOULD YOU WISH TO PLAY THE TAPE I AM INFORMED THAT YOU SHOULD PLAY IT ON A FOUR TRACK RECORDER OTHERWISE INTER-SECRET

SECRET

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REFERENCE WILL BE EXPERIENCED. TECHNICAL INFORMATION IS THAT

THE TAPE WAS RECORDED AT 3 3/4 IPS ON TRACKS 1 AND 4 OF 4
TRACK RECORDER."

3. TRANSCRIPT READS AS FOLLOWS:

TIME C/STATION MESSAGE
(GMT)

0504 JAPANAIR MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MOUNT CARMEL
AND SAGHDA CALLING MALTA ON (PROBABLY
128.7).
MALTA GOOD MORNING, GO AHEAD.
MALTA MOUNT CARMEL, MOUNT CARMEL, MOUNT CARMEL,
MOUNT CARMEL MALTA MOUNT CARMEL MALTA,
GO AHEAD.
JAPANAIR (REPLY UNREADABLE)
MALTA MOUNT CARMEL, MOUNT CARMEL, MALTA,
ROGER ONE SECOND ONE SECOND.
0505 MALTA MOUNT CARMEL, MOUNT CARMEL, MALTA, LABRAQ
NDB POSITION 3247 NORTH 3247 NORTH,
2158 EAST 2158 EAST OVER.
JAPANAIR ROGER MOUNT CARMEL (UNREADABLE) COORDI-
NATES OF BENINA COORDINATES OF
BENINA AND WEATHER CONDITION OVER LEBRAQ
AND BENINA, WEATHER CONDITION OVER LEBRAQ
AND BENINA OVER.
0507 MALTA ROGER ROGER BENINA, BENINA 3206 NORTH 3206
NORTH 2016 EAST 2016 EAST, STANDBY FOR
WEATHER OVER.
JAPANAIR (NO REPLY HEARD).
0508 AIRCRAFT 02 MALTA, MALTA FROM 02 ON 128.7.
MALTA 02, MALTA
02 MALTA FROM 02 (UNTIL) ATHENI ATC REQUEST
IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HIJACKED
JAPANESE AIRLINE AIRCRAFT.
MALTA ONLY INFORMATION AIRCRAFT IN CONTACT, ONLY
INFORMATION AIRCRAFT IN CONTACT, THAT IS ALL.

02 NO FLIGHT LEVEL?
0508:30 MALTA MOUNT CARMEL, MOUNT CARMEL, MALTA REQUESTS
SECRET

SECRET

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FLIGHT LEVEL.
JAPANAIR MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, I REPEAT
INTERRUPTION AMERICAN VOICE AND ANY DESTINATION?
MALTA STANDBY
JAPANAIR (CONTINUED TRANSMISSION WHICH WAS UNREADABLE)
0509 MALTA MOUNT CARMEL, MALTA, READING YOU WEAK
UNDERSTAND FLIGHT LEVEL 140.

SECRET

NNN

SECRET

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 EA-11 M-03 SY-10 EB-11 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /100 W

----- 130879

R 031131Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4611

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 VALLETTA 1592

JAPANAIR (UNREADABLE)

MALTA I GOT SGHDA, SAGHDA, I DID NOT

COPY FIRST WORD.

JAPANAIR (UNREADABLE)

MALTA SAGHDA, SAGHDA, MALTA, I CANNOT READ FIRST

WORD I CANNOT READ FIRST WORD, OK REMAIN

THIS FREQUENCY I'M LISTENING OUT FOR YOU,

STANDBY FOR WEATHER.

0510 JAPANAIR OK, ROGER

MALTA SAGHDA, SAGHDA, SAGHDA, MALTA, WEATHER

BENGASI WEATHER BENINA CAVOK, WEATHER

BENINA CAVOK, CAVOK.

JAPANAIR ROGER ROGER

MALTA SAGHDA, SAGHDA MALTA REPEAT FULL CALLSIGN

REPEAT FULL CALLSIGN.

JAPANAIR MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MOUNT CARMEL AND

SAGHDA.

MALTA MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MOUNT CARMEL

AND SAGHDA, ROGER.

JAPANAIR OK, MOUNT SAGHDA, WE ARE WANT THE FRE-

QUENCY OF BENINA, THE FREQUENCY OF BENINA

OVER.

0511:30 MALTA ROGER, ROGER FREQUENCY BENINA 121 DECOMAL

3, 121 DECOMAL 3 OVER.

JAPANAIR (NO REPLY HEARD)

0511:45 002 MALTA FROM 002, THANK YOU VERY MUCH I'LL

RELAY TO ATHENS.

MALTA ROGER

SECRET

SECRET

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0513:10 JAPANAIR MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MOUNT CARMEL AND
SAGHDA TO MALTA.

MALTA MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MALTA

JAPANAIR REQUEST VOR FREQUENCY OF BENINA, VOR
FREQUENCY OF BENINA OVER.

0513:30 MALTA ROGER, ROGER, ONE MOMENT.

:45 MALTA ONE ONE SEVEN FOUR

:50 JAPANAIR ROGER, ROGER

0523:22 MALTA MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA, MOUNT CARMEL AND
SAGHDA, MALTA.

MALTA MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA MALTA

DO YOU READ?

0524 02 MALTA FROM 02

MALTA 02 OVER

02 I CAN HEARD MOUNT CARMEL CALLING BENGASI
ON 121.3 ON 121.3

MALTA ROGER MOSTLY INTERESTED FINAL DESTINATION
THANK YOU.

0524:35 02 OK ROGER

0542 02 MALTA FROM 02

MALTA 02

02 MALTA, 02, THIS AIRCRAFT, THIS JAPANESE
AIRLINER IS NOW WITH BENGASI TOWER
FREQUENCY FOR THE LANDING THERE AND
AND IS GETTING OUT OF
RANGE NOW, GOOD-DAY TO YOU.

0542:18 MALTA ROGER GOOD DAY

THE RECORDING CONTINUES TO 0707Z, THERE WAS NO FURTHER MESSAGES
TO OR FROM OR REFERENCES TO MOUNT CARMEL AND SAGHDA.
GETZ

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VALLET01592
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1 GETZ
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: VALLETTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730857/aaaabqdv.tel
Line Count: 205
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 146537, 73 VALLETTA 1543
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOLLOW-UP OF JAL HIJACKING
TAGS: PINS, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005